

Semantic Study of Select Synonyms in the Great Andamanese Language

Selvaganapathy, M.Phil.

Jawaharlal Nehru University

Brahmaputra Hostel, Jawaharlal Nehru University

New Delhi -110067

selvaganapathy905@gmail.com

Abstract

This study aims to interpret and evaluating the several of synonyms found in Great Andamanese language. The main purpose of the present study is to provide a concise description of the various synonyms that exist in the language of Great Andamanese. What are the kinds of synonyms available in Great Andamanese and what are the binary oppositions in Great Andamanese?

This study on synonyms in Great Andamanese is based on the data of more than 500 words with their different interpretive meanings. The data for this study was collected for this from primary and secondary sources like books, manuscripts etc. Information on usage of over hundred sets of Synonyms of Great Andamanese have been collected. This data was analysed on the basis of semantic principles.

Keywords: Great Andamanese, Semantics, synonymy, Binary opposition, antonyms, Complementary, Converse, Directional opposites, Reverses, Non-Binary Contrast, Hyponymy, Metonymy.

1.Introduction

This paper presents a descriptive semantic study of synonyms used in the Great Andamanese language.

1.2 Great Andamanese

Various studies in the past, both linguistic and genetic suggests that the Andamanese tribes might be the last remaining generation of of pre-Neolithic Southeast Asia. They represent perhaps the initial settlement by modern humans. Hagelberg (2002) analysed mitochondrial DNA sequences and RFLP (Restriction Fragment Length Polymorphisms) of X and Y chromosome and microsatellite markers from members of the Onge, Jarawa and Great Andamanese tribes. They also analysed mtDNA sequences from Andamanese hair samples

collected by an ethnographer between 1906 and 1908. Their conclusion was that the Andamanese have closer affinities to Asian than to African populations and that they are descendants of the early Palaeolithic or Old Stone Age inhabitants of Southeast Asia. This theory was later challenged by Thangaraj (2005).

There are ten languages in the Great Andamanese family, which can be grouped into three varieties based on their geographical distribution – southern, central, and northern. They include - Aka-Bea and Aka-Bale from the south; Aka-Pucikwar (known as Pujjukur presently), Aka-Kol, Aka-Kede and Aka-Jowoi from the central region; and Aka-Jem, Aka-Bo, Aka-Kora (known as Khora by the present speakers) and Aka-Cari (popularly called Sare by the present speakers) form the northern variety. Except for Jeru and Sare,¹ all other Great Andamanese languages are now extinct. Not all languages were mutually intelligible with each other as the languages of the Great Andamanese tribes formed a “linguistic continuum” based on proximity of the tribes to each other. So each language was closely related to that of the neighbouring tribes on each side, but those at the extreme ends of the region were mutually unintelligible. Hence, Aka-Cari (Map 1). From the northern region, was mutually unintelligible with Aka-Bea of the southern variety.

The present-day Great Andamanese language is a mixture of four northern varieties² with sporadic interferences from the central variety such as Aka-Pucikwar. Linguists consider Great Andamanese as a language isolate because no links to any other language family outside the region have been established so far.

The latest research by Abbi in (2003) and (2006) shows that Great Andamanese constitutes the sixth language family of India. Linguistic research on the surviving languages of the Andaman Islands reveals little commonality between the Great Andamanese and the languages of the Jarawa-Onge group according to Abbi (2003) (2006) (2009). The Jarawa-Onge group has been associated with the Austronesian language family (Blevins, 2007). Out of the ten varieties that once existed in the Great Andamanese family, traces of only four languages - Sare, Khora, Bo and Jero can be found in today's speech. The recent deaths of the last speakers of Khora and Bo have left only Jero and Sare speakers who are not fully conversant with their respective languages but remember isolated words from their native tongues.

1.3 Semantics

The study of semantics deals with the meaning of a lexical item. A semantic feature is a feature by which the meaning of a word is distinguished from that of others. A semantic component of a generative grammar is a distinct set of semantic rules that assign representations of meaning to sentences. Semantic criteria in linguistics analysis, are criteria that refer to

meaning. This is seen as distinct from formal criteria, which do not. A semantic definition of a word class will refer to types of meaning that characterize it.

1.4. Scope of the Study

The main purpose of the present study is an attempt to present a brief description of synonyms that occur in the language of Great Andamanese. The study also aims at interpreting and evaluating the several of synonyms found in Great Andamanese.

1.5. Empirical Study of the Research

The present study is divided into five sections, which in turn are further divided into sub-sections wherever necessary. The first section is introduction, which deals with the topic of research, purpose and scope of the study, source material and provides a overview of the paper. The second section explain the definition of synonymy as given by different linguistics, types of synonyms etc. The third section on synonymic varieties, explains the various types of synonyms found to occur in the language of Great Andamanese languages, and also discusses the causes for the formation of synonyms in the language. The fourth section on synonymic pattern explains the characteristics and patterns of synonyms in Great Andamanese. The final section is the conclusion to the study, where the research findings are highlighted.

2. Collection of Data

This study on synonyms in Great Andamanese is based on the data of more than 500 words with their different interpretive meanings. The data for this study was collected for this from primary and secondary sources like books, manuscripts etc. Information on usage of over hundred sets of Synonyms of Great Andamanese have been collected. This data was analysed on the basis of semantic principles.

2.1. Theoretical Basis

The present study is based on referential theory of meaning expounded by Ullmann (1959), Zgusta (1971), Lyons (1971), Cruse (1986), Geeraerts (2010). These works constitute the theoretical basis for this article. Synonymy and homonymy are usually felt to be correlative notions but there is one notable difference between them. Homonymy can be an absolute; on the other hand it is known that total synonymy is an extremely rare occurrence. A luxury which languages can ill afford is the vagueness of allocating the same sense to two different words, such that they can easily be ascertained as identical. However, it is difficult to prove that any two words the same senses are coextensive. Two factors compete against each other in formation of synonymy - vagueness of the speaker and emotive overtones. Only those words can be described as synonymous which can replace each other in any given context without the slightest alteration either in cognitive or in emotive import. Synonyms are coextensive and interchangeable in intellectual and affective value.

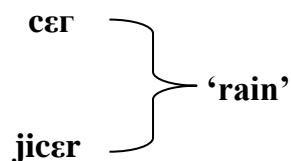
2.2. Review of Literature

A characteristic feature of a vocabulary of any language is the existence of synonyms which is closely connected with the problem of meaning of the word. The most complicated problem is the definition of the word “Synonyms.” There are many definitions of the term, but none of them are universally accepted. Traditionally the synonyms were defined as words different in sound-form but identical or similar in meaning. This definition has been severely criticized on several counts, especially by those who treated the problem of synonymy differently, including the Russian scientists. Among numerous definitions of the term in our linguistics, the most comprehensive and full one is suggested by I.V. Arnold: “Synonyms-are two or more words of the same meaning, belonging to the same part of speech, possessing one or more identical meaning, inter-changeable at least in some contexts without any considerable alteration in denotation meaning, but differing in morphemic composition and phonemic shape. Shades of meaning, connotation affective value style, emotional colouring and valence peculiar to one of the elements in a synonymic group.” This definition describes the notion “synonymy” and gives some criteria of synonymy- identity of meaning, inter-changeability etc. It also shows some difference in connotation, emotive colouring, style etc. However, this descriptive definition as well as many others has one main drawback that there are no objective criteria of “identity” or similarity” or sameness of meaning. They all are based on the linguistic intuitions of the scholars. From the definition it follows that, the members of the synonymic group in a dictionary should have their common denotation meaning and consequently it should be explained in the same words. They may have some differences in implication, connotation, shades of meaning, idiomatic usage etc.

SYNONYMY

3.1 Introduction

The theoretical basis for this study derives from referential theory of meaning expounded by Ullmann (1959) Zgusta (1971) and others. When two or more words are identical in all the three components of lexical meaning, it is called absolute synonymy. Normally in language absolute synonyms are very rare and they are mostly found in reference to a technical term. In English for instance, Caecitis and Typhilitis are two medical terms referring to the same disease, wherein the Caecum, which is located at the beginning of the large intestine gets inflamed. In colloquial language, absolute synonyms are very rare generally. This also holds true for the Great Andamanese language.



Near synonymy are words which differ at least in one the components of lexical meaning. These are discussed under connotation and range of application, along with a few examples from Great Andamanese. Though two or more word can be synonymous if they have a designation, they may still differ in one or more criteria features. Either a word may have additional criteria features or some criteria feature may not be present. Thus, there can be near synonyms which differ in designation. Partial synonymy is a polygamous word which can have different synonyms according to its different meanings. and corresponding synonyms might not be synonyms among themselves. Despite the similarities and differences in meanings of two words, for them to be called synonyms, they must be substitutable at least is one context. So far, the paper discussed synonymy on the basis of the components of the lexical meaning. We also observed that for two words to be called as synonyms they must be substitutable at least in a single context without changing the meaning of the sentence (Anvita Abbi 2012).

3.2. Synonymy between Lexemes

Synonymy is defined as a relationship between lexemes. Total synonymy implies that the synonyms, first have the same range of meanings, not excluding the non-denotation kinds of meaning presented in the article lexical meaning type. Second, they need to be paradigmatically substitutable for each other in all possible contexts without changing the meaning of the sentence as a whole. These two criteria are interrelated. For instance, a picture and film share the reading of cinematographic representation of a story, but not the reading of painted or drawn portrait. This may explain why film is substitutable for picture in this context. However, there are certain exceptions. For instance, “Did you see the latest - with John Gielgud?”; or "this is the famous - of Dr Cachet by Van Gogh.” That is to say the absence of total synonymy from the paradigmatic point of view explains the absence of total synonymy from the syntagmatic point of view.

3.3. Synonymy between Words in Context

Synonymy is defined as a relationship between words which are used in the same context. Two items are synonymous if first, they may be substituted for each other in a given context, and second if they have the same semantic value in the context. With respect to the referential and the non-referential aspects of meaning, a live partial synonymy between words in a context exists if substitutable items differ in non-referential aspects of meaning. In this context, film and picture are completely synonymous in the reading of cinematographic representation with regard to a context like did you see the latest - with John Gielgud. It needs to be taken for granted here that both words do not exhibit zero differences when it comes to emotive or stylistic meaning. On the other hand, the word ‘film’ perhaps informs the message more clearly than picture.

3.4 Avoidance of Synonymy

There is a general agreement among semanticists that total synonymy among lexemes is an extremely rare phenomenon. This only occurs when various expressions compete in a period. When a new thing or idea is yet to receive a name, total synonymy should be easier to find in language varieties. Such as technical language, in which non-demonstrational aspects of meaning play a less important role.

This tendency of natural languages to exhibit total synonymy to very large degree may be seen as an illustration of a more general tendency towards an isomorphic organization of the relationship between form and meaning, i.e., of the tendency to have one form correspond with one semantic category and vice - versa. Avoidance of homonymy and avoidance of synonymy are then converse historical process, wherein avoidance of homonymy implies getting rid of a multiplicity on the semantic side, while avoidance of synonymy means getting rid of superfluity on the formal side.

The semantic relation of sameness of meaning. Either among lexical items or among sentences or propositions - which is also called paraphrase. Here we pay particular attention to lexical cases of synonymy although synonymy technically has the same meaning in the everyday use of the term synonymy. We are usually quite happy to accept as synonyms items with similar but not identical meaning. If we did not, thesaurus would be short books indeed, because most semantically similar lexical items differ by some dimension or degree of meaning and use. This is because language generally avoids lexical synonymy. Before turning to synonym avoidance, we first consider the properties of synonyms.

3.5 Substitution and Synonymy

In logical terms two propositions are synonymous or paraphrase of one another if they have exactly the same truth conditions. In other words, in any situation in which one of the propositions is true, other is false too. This means that synonymous propositions are mutually entailing as the case for the following sentence 1 and 2.

Boasr bought a book from Peje.

Peje sold Boasr a book.

The proposition expressed by 1 entails the proposition expressed by 2 and vice versa. So, 1 and 2 are logically synonymous or paraphrases of each other.

4. Kinds of Synonymies

They are four kinds of synonyms. They are:

1. Absolute synonymy
2. Near synonymy
3. Partial synonymy and
4. Total synonymy.

4.1. Synonymy

fish	flower	tree	bird
bol[βɔ]	camu['kamɨ]	bol[βɔ]	balat[bæ at]
bonor[βöŋpɾ]	ca:o[çɑ:ø]	bottom[bø t øŋ]	carap[χarap]
bullu[βô u]	cjba[çjba]	phoco[phøçø]	bala[βα a]
batto['bat: t]	ejb[ajb]	celmo[çə mɔ]	balu[βα u]
beloi[βə' ɔ]	ejro[ajrø]	cena[çəŋɑ]	Ceru: [çəru:]
rain	rainbow	snail	shell
jicer[ji:çə]	bilutaracum[bi u tə ɾɑ çom]	mjrikk[mʒ' rɛjχ]	kaplo[χap ø]
cer[tʃɛ: r]	Bilurj:wj[bi vɾj: wj]	kalatop[ka at øp]	karasue[χarɑ ʃuə]
reatcle[rəɑ: k]	bo[bø]	Kara:wlu[kɑɑ:u u]	kor[kør]
ijine[iɨŋə]	djanu[djaŋu]	gonge[gøŋgə]	toa[tʊɑ]
snake	fruit	leaf	bun [bøn]
sik[ʃik]	erco[ɛr: tsø]	tajiofec[tɛjiofəx]	calo[çə ə]
rene[rəŋə]	etale[ɛ ɑ ə]	fal[fa:]	tera[tərɐ]
toba[tɔba]	sulu[ʃu u]	bana[baŋɑ]	kjro[ɛu: rɑ]
baralo[βarə ø]	ibijol[i: bi: jɔ ə]	soetec[søə təx]	barcjm[bærcjɨŋ]
becjc['bəkjç]	iltotco[i t t ø t ɔ:]	Bufi[afti[βufi afti:]	beterbat[βiətər bæt]

BINARY OPPOSITION

4.2 Introduction

Binary opposition is one of the most important paradigmatic relations governing the semantic structure of language. In earlier works on semantics, it was called oppositeness of meaning or antonymy. John Lyons uses opposition or binary opposition as a general term for all opposites called gradable opposites (Lyons, 1977).

Example:

1. This is a big house
2. This is a small house

Binary opposites are divided into four. The four types can be primarily classified into gradable and ungradable opposites. All other opposites are ungradable and belong to three subtypes called complementariness, converses, and directional opposites.

[ad:ix]‘God’	x [ajuro]‘Goddess’	[amimi]‘mother’ x [amae]‘father’
[akaik ^h e]‘open’	x [tok ^h] ‘close’	[aone]‘come’ x [cone] ‘go’
[akajira]‘hot’	x [arlu:j] ‘cool’	[aralep ^h a]‘bachelor’x[abcuga]‘marriedman’
[ata ^h] ‘brith	x [akale] ‘death’	[aratɔɔ] ‘big’ x [cowa:y] ‘small’
[akamimitaratab]x[Amaikathami] ‘Grandmother’	x ‘Grandfather’	[aratɔɔ] ‘big’ x [cowa:y] ‘small’
[ajili] ‘young girl’	x [Amaikathami] x ‘oldest women’	[akandukalɔt] ‘young’ x [aratɔm] ‘old’
[akka:ma:ytara:ton]x[aka:omotara:ton] ‘king’	x ‘queen’	[ɛrbuka]‘girl’ x [atota] ‘boy’
[bariŋa]‘good’	x [cae] ‘bad’	[bodo] ‘sun’ x [d̥u:lɔfɔɔ] ‘moon’
[aralep ^h a]‘Earth	x [abcuga]‘sky’	[boto] ‘fall’ x [k ^h ilu] ‘up’
[bilixu]‘angel’	x [bobuɬu]‘ghost’	[bɔʂɔ] ‘no’ x [iya] ‘yes’

4.3 Gradable Opposites or Antonyms

In all languages gradable opposites or antonyms are one of the major groups of opposites. In the earlier works antonymy was used as a common term to refer to all types of binary opposites.

3. Lico is younger than Boros
4. Boro Sr is older than Lico

Oral Andamanese antonyms - araudu, meaning fast, and alea - slow can be used for comparison as follows.

4.5. Antonyms

4.6. Complementary

The other major group of binary opposites are complementary.

They are ungradable opposites. A pair of complementary opposites “extensively divide some conceptual domain into two mutually exclusive compartments, so that what does not fall into one of the compartments must necessarily fall into the other.

Complementaries

[aʈota] ‘boy’ / [akaʈa] ‘girl’	[atota] ‘young’/ [araʈom] ‘old’
[ambik ^h ir] ‘day’/ [bat] ‘night’	[bəʂə] ‘no’/ [iya] ‘yes’
[akaik ^h e] ‘open’/ [akaʈ ^h oke] ‘closed’	[d̪id̪ek] ‘sunrise’/ [d̪iukɔrale] ‘sunset’
[berinj] ‘good’/ [cae] ‘bad’	[eʈto:ʈte] ‘clean’/ [emet ^h il] ‘dirty’ [d̪irim] ‘black’/ [eʈɔlɔtmo] ‘white’
[akka:mu:ytara:toŋ] / [akka:mimitara:toŋ] ‘king’ / ‘queen’	[cokbit ^h a:rɔ] ‘male’/ [buk ^h u] ‘female’
[arɔpuc] / [akak ^h imilk ^h ui] ‘oldman’/ ‘young boy’	[ekrɔʂep ^h o] ‘hat’/ [ekroʂe] ‘love’
[ambik ^h ir] ‘morning’/ [jelo] ‘evening’	[amimikamai] / amimikamimi ‘grandfather’/ ‘grandmother’
[amimi] ‘mother’/ [amae] ‘father’	[ad̪ix] ‘god’/ [ajuro] ‘goddess’
[alea] ‘slow’/ [arauɖu] ‘fast’	
[akka:mu:ytara:toŋ] / [aramɔtɔtemic] ‘left leg’ / ‘right leg’	

4.7. Converse

Converses are the pairs of opposite in which both the members hold the relation of converseness to each other. In other words, they are opposites that are inter-dependent.

For instance, ‘John is Mary’s husband.’. This sentence automatically implies that Mary is John’s wife. In this example, the word husband is dependent on the meaning of the word wife. Similarly, the meaning of wife is dependent on the meaning of husband. Man, and a woman can only be called husband and wife when they are married to each other. Thus, there is an apparent relation inherent in the sentence.

The pairs of English words like master : servant; teacher : student; lawyer : client; doctor : patient; buy : sell are converse. Converse pairs show reversal of relationship between the words on the basis of relational characteristics between the members of the pairs of opposites.

Converse

[ototo] ‘son’ – [akaʈ] ‘daughter’	[.miʂumai] ‘king’ – [miʂumamimi] ‘queen’
[amimi] ‘mother’ – [mai] ‘father’	[kamimiphu] ‘motherless-[kamaep ^h u] fatherless’
[abcuga] ‘man’ – [abscupa] ‘woman’	[oʈem] son’s wife – [Otoni] daughters husband
[adix] ‘god’ – [ajuro] ‘goddess’	[st̪ɔwoʈ ^h u:we] brother–[ɔʈ ^h otoaʈ ^h uekaʈa] sister

[akamimitaratab] - [amaikat ^h amai] 'Grandmother' - 'grandfather'	[rabuk ^h u] female pig - [ra] male pig
[arɔpac] 'old man' - [old ep ^h oa] 'old woman'	[racakamo] 'old pig' - [rakarap ^h il] 'young pig'
[cana] 'amdam' - [da] 'sir'	

5. Directional Opposites

The directional opposites are the last type of binary opposites which is taken as the main features of directions. It is an implication of movement in one of two opposed directions with respect to a given place.

The Main Types of Directional Opposite are:

1. Opposite directions
2. Antipodal
3. Reverses
4. Converses

5.1 Opposite Directions

Opposite directions: are adverbial pairs such as

Kon-up : tumbo-down

forwards : backwards 'backward'

bilik^hu north : south

in : out

or possible directions or paths of movement in opposing directions.

5.2 Antipodals

Antipodals represent extreme points along a certain axis within some entity. Purely spatial examples include:

top : bottom

front : back oʃbo

atəŋ floor : ceiling

rco head : toe umətotuŋ kenap

- the relationship can also be seen in non-spatial domains

na;kki - beginning : end - tujukhul

introduction : conclusion

5.3 Reverses

It involves movement or change, or cause of movement or change in opposite directions between two states (Saeed, 2009).

e.g.

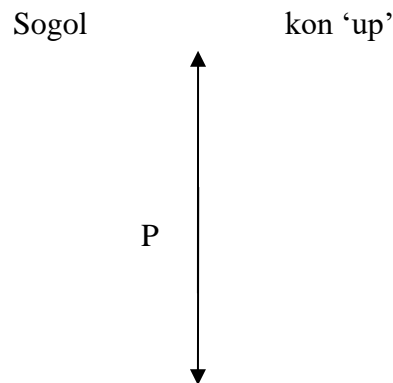
ekter push / ekten pull .in a swing door. ekten.

The directional opposites are the last type of binary opposites which are basically differentiated from the other groups of opposites on the basis of direction and motion. Directionality is taken as the main feature of directional opposites.

The pairs of opposites that are included under directional are Eng. Come : go, above : below, right : left, and Gri and aone ‘come’ : conne ‘go’, ‘above’: ‘below’, ‘khirthyubeba’ : khir ‘left’ etc., The directionality of these pairs can be explained with the help of figures. There is a point P and English word ‘come’ which in Great Andamanese is ‘aone’ is depicted by a movement towards point P, which is shown by a line and arrow mark showing the direction. The English word ‘go’ and its corresponding Great Andamanese ‘go’ are going away from the point P which is also shown by a line and arrow mark.

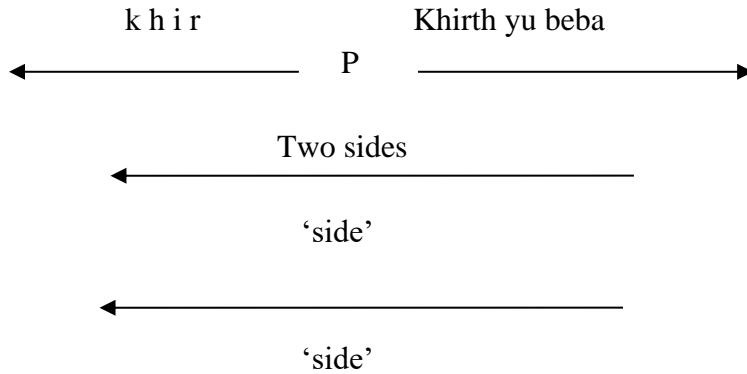


Similarly, the pair of words denoting the direction above and below in English and Great Andamanese are represented through movement from point P. They may also include their Tamil counterpart, which is ‘meelee’ for above and ‘kilee’ for below. Direction of motion here is in the vertical axis, and may be represented diagrammatically as follows -



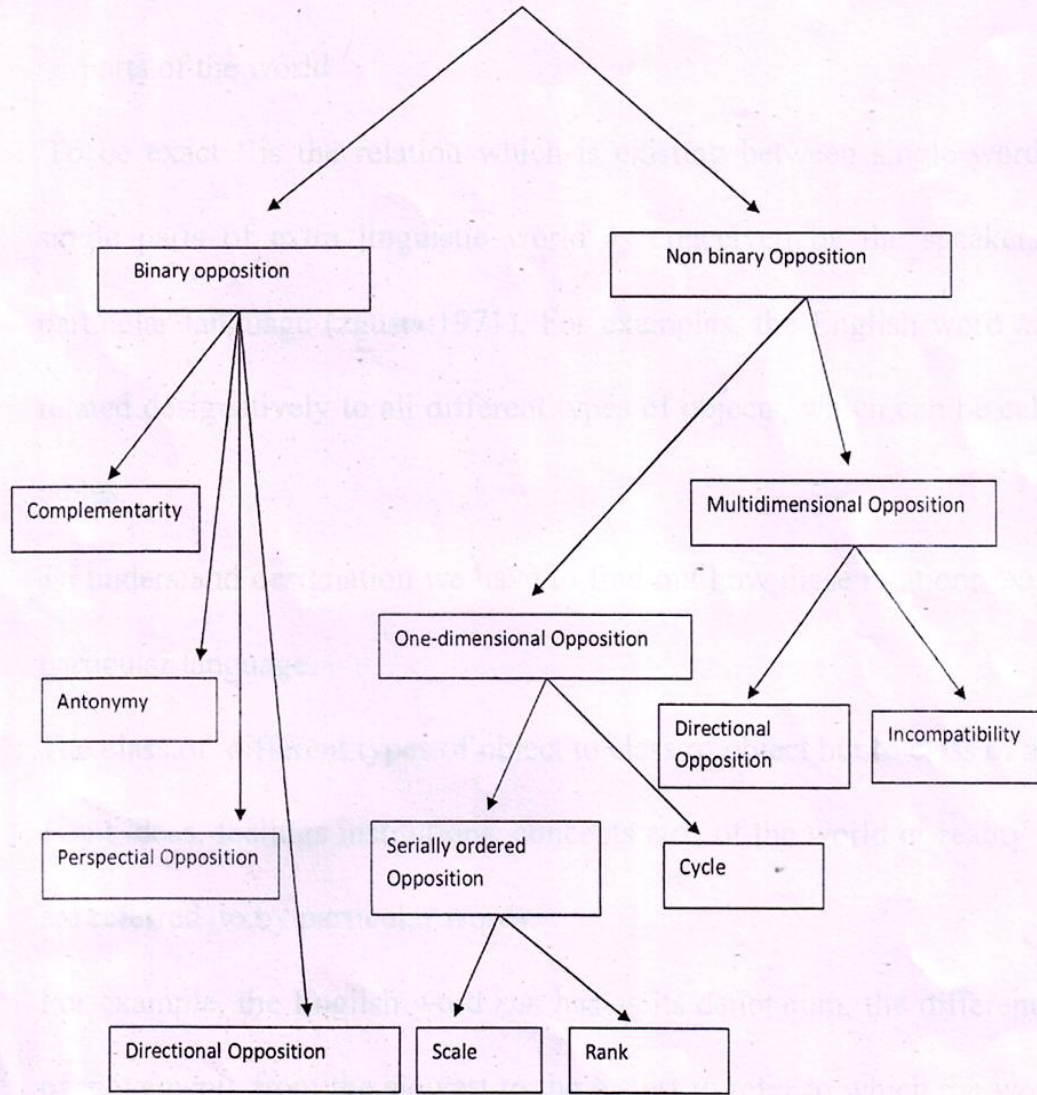
tumbo 'down'

In the case of the opposite pairs English right: left and Tamil valatu - right.: iTatu - left motion or movement is involved from the point P towards the right side and the left side in the horizontal axis.



Anvita Abbi (2012). Dictionary of the Great Andamanese language Ratna Sagar P. Ltd.

Types of semantic opposition & semantic oppositeness



NON-BINARY CONTRAST

6. Introduction

The non-binary contrast or incompatibility is another important sense relation based on contrast within similarity.

6.1. Hyponymy

Hyponymy is also explainable as a kind of relation. When the relation of hyponymy holds between nouns, it is possible to insert syntactically appropriate expressions containing them. We can say.

Lotus is a kind of flower ‘jeru’
 Horse is a kind of animal ‘tajiobiencne’
 Orange is a kind of fruit
 Mangrove is a kind of tree ‘Celmo’

Hyponyms	Superordinate
erəhe ‘coral flower’	jeru ‘Flower’
cao ‘dog’	ʈajiobiencne ‘Animal’
konaʈəʈo ‘kona fruit’	kəmə ‘fruit’
khidertəŋ ‘coconut tree’	celmo ‘Tree’

6.2. Hyponyms

[ɛββeo] -- ‘bamboo’	[bido] ‘a tree used for emergency water’
[f ɔr to] -- A variety of bamboo	[Cɛp] -- ‘mangrove’
[k ^h uli] -- A variety of bamboo	[cilo] -- ‘like a palm tree’
[k ^h ulu] -- A variety of bamboo	[comulu] -- ‘Found on shores’
[k ^h u:p] -- A variety of bamboo	[kət] -- ‘palm tree’
[lectoe] -- A variety of bamboo	[emyo:y] -- ‘lemon tree’
[Por] -- A variety of bamboo	[ijipu] ‘insects & invertebrate’
	[k ^h Itetmo] -- ‘jungle bee’
[Pɔtole] -- A variety of bamboo	[racokɔro] -- ‘bamboo carpenter bee’
[rɛt] -- A variety of bamboo	[t ^h u] -- ‘bee’
[to] -- A variety of bamboo	[jiroto] -- ‘small bee’
[t ^h el] -- A variety of bamboo	[kalabo] -- ‘coleoptera’
[bol] Tree kinds of Tree	[kalabo] -- ‘cockroach’

[kɔfɔ bol] -- banana tree'	[keipkarakɛrep] -- 'insect'
[th imolɔton] -- 'banyan tree'	
[cɔm tɔɔŋ] -- 'betelnut tree'	
[k ^h idertɔŋ] -- 'coconut tree'	

6.3 Meronymy

The lexemes denoting the parts are called meronymy. These parts together form a whole, which is called a holonym. For instance, talking about human body, hand, arm, head, ear, nose etc are meronyms, of the body which is holonym. In other words, meronyms are parts of a holonym.

a. Part-Whole Relation

Part-whole relation is a hierarchical relation different from hyponymy. Like hyponymy, part-whole relation also plays a major role in ordering the hierarchical structure of the vocabulary of a language. Both in the case of hyponymy and part-whole relation, a number of lexemes are included in the meaning of one lexeme. As in the meaning of the super ordinate flower, the meaning of the lexemes rose, tulip, lotus, jasmine etc are included.

When we think about the meaning of body, the meanings of the lexemes head, hand, arm, leg, etc., get included. The difference between meronymy and hyponymy is that the former is a part-whole relation, whereas the latter denotes a subcategory of a more general class. For instance, we can say Lotus is a kind of flower, but we can't say arm is a kind of body. Here Lotus is a hyponym of flower, which is its hypernym. Part-whole relation is referred to a part which has a relation with the whole structure. The part-whole relation is also called Paronymy. or Meronymy.

For example

Hand is a part of the body

Wheel is the part of the cycle

Room is the part of the house

The lexemes denoting the parts are called meronymy and the whole is called holonym. Hand, arm, head, ear, nose etc are meronyms of the body which is their holonym.

b. Human Body

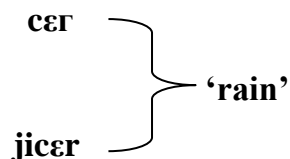
[ɛrco] 'head'	[eiʃɔŋo] 'body'	[ebucɔk] 'leg'	[ebala] 'hand'
[coɔy] 'skull'	[oɪtɔɛk] 'neck'	[umɔɪotujuk ^h u] 'front part of the leg'	[ɔŋkara] 'fingers'
[otbec] 'hair'	[oɪɕar] 'chest'	[umɔɪotunjenap] 'toes'	[otbec] 'nails'

[erkɔ̃hɔ] ‘nose’	[otcotobat] ‘nipple’	[umik ^h u] ‘lap’	[oŋkorɔ] ‘palm’
[erboa] ‘mouth’	[otbo] ‘back’	[omɔ̃tɔ ^h u] ‘sole’	[oŋp ^h oŋ] ‘armpit’
[erulu] ‘eyes’	[otkɔ̃rno] ‘lungs’	[umɔ̃tɔ̃taradole] ‘heel’	[ebalataradole] ‘elbow’
[akaʔat] ‘tongue’	[ebottɔ̃e] ‘hips’	[ecoro:k ^h tɔ̃bun] ‘bone below knee’	[oŋtɔ̃e] ‘wrist’
[erbuo] ‘ears’	[Ermetɔ̃i] ‘brest’	[oŋrɔ̃no] ‘ankle’	[tɔ̃ŋk ^h urɔ] ‘thumb’
[ercɔk] ‘face’	[onrɔ:ptɔ:y] ‘back bone’	[oma:tɔ̃] ‘feet’	[Ebala] ‘arm’

Research Findings

Absolute Synonymy

In English Caesitis and typhifies are two technical medical referring to the disease inflammation of the blind gut or caecus in the general language absolute synonyms are very rare in Great Andamanese the absolute synonymy.



Gradable Opposites or Antonyms

Oral antonyms. araudu. .fast. and .alea. .slow. can be used for comparison as follows.

Antonymy

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. [aɟix] ‘God’ | x [ajuro] ‘Goddess’ |
| 2. [akaik ^h e] ‘open’ | x [tok ^h] ‘close’ |
| 3. [akajira] ‘hot’ | x [arlu:j] ‘cool’ |
| 4. [atat ^h] ‘brith’ | x [akale] ‘death’ |
| 5. [akamimitaratab] ‘Grandmother’ | x [amaikathami] ‘Grandfather’ |

Complementaries

- | | |
|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1. [aɟota] ‘boy’ | / [akaʔa] ‘girl’ |
| 2. [ambik ^h ir] ‘day’ | / [bat] ‘night’ |
| 3. [akaik ^h e] ‘open’ | / [akaʔ ^h oke] ‘closed’ |
| 4. [berij] ‘good’ | / [cae] ‘bad’ |

5. [akka:mu:ytara:toŋ] ‘king’ / [akka:mimitara:toŋ] ‘queen’

Converse

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| 1.[ototo] ‘son’ | – [akat] ‘daughter’ |
| 2.[amimi] ‘mother’ | – [mai] ‘father’ |
| 3.[abcuga] ‘man’ | – [abscupa] ‘woman’ |
| 4. [adix] ‘god’ | – [ajuro] ‘goddess’ |
| 5.[akamimitaratab] ‘Grandmother’ | – [amaikat ^h amai] ‘grandfather’ |

Directional Opposites

Opposite Directions

Opposite directions: are adverbial pairs such as

[kon] up : [tumbo] down
 forwards : backwards ‘backward’
 [bilik^hu] north : south

Antipodals

top top : bottom
 front : back [oʃbo]
 [atəŋ] floor : [ceiling]
 [rco] head : toe [umətotuŋ kenap]

Reversives

[ekter] push / [ekten] pull .in a swing door. [ekʃen].

NON-BINARY CONTRAST

Hyponymy

Hyponyms	Superordinate
[erəhe] ‘coral flower’	[jeru] ‘Flower’
[cao] ‘dog’	[ʃajobiɛnəne] ‘Animal’
[konaʃo] ‘kona fruit’	[kɛmə] ‘fruit’
[khiderʃəŋ] ‘coconut tree’	[celmo] ‘Tree’

HYPONYMS

[ε ββeo]	– ‘bamboo’	‘A variety of bamboo’
[f ɔr to]		‘bamboo’
[k ^h uli]		‘bamboo’
[bol]	Tree	kinds of Tree
[kəfə bol]		‘banana tree’
[th imolətoŋ]		‘banyan tree’

Meronymy

The lexemes denoting the parts are called meronymy and the one denoting the whole is called holonym. Hand, arm, head, ear, nose etc are meronymys included under body which is holonym.

Human body

erco ‘head’	eišəŋo ‘body’	ebucək ‘leg’	ebala ‘hand’
coŋəy ‘skull’	oŋəək ‘neck’	umətoŋjuk ^{hu} ‘front part of the leg’	əŋkara ‘fingers’
otbec ‘hair’	oŋcar ‘chest’	umətoŋkenap ‘toes’	otbec ‘nails’
erkəŋhə ‘nose’	otcotobaŋ ‘nipple’	umik ^{hu} ‘lap’	əŋkorə ‘palm’

Conclusion

In this study interpreted and evaluating the several of synonyms found in Great Andamanese language. We carryout various synonyms, antonyms, binary and non-binary oppositions like Absolute Synonymy, Gradable Opposites or Antonyms, Complementaries, Converse, Directional Opposites, Antipodals, Reversives. Non-Binary Contrast: Hyponymy, Meronymy.

Aka-Bea and Aka-Bale from the south variety words are available in Aka-Pucikwar which is known as Pujjukar in present day, words like [bol] Tree (Aka-Bea), [əŋkorə] ‘palm’, [k^hulu] bamboo (Aka-Bale) etc., Aka –Kede and Aka-Jowoi from the central region words are available in present day Khora language, words like k^hidertəŋ] ‘coconut tree,’ [coŋəy] ‘skull’ (Aka –Kede), [aŋota] ‘boy’, [ajuro] ‘Goddess’ (Aka-Jowoi) etc. Jeru and Sare are northern variety which is

contains mixture of southern and central regions vocabularies like [amimi]‘mother’, [amae]‘father’, camu[‘kamɪ] ‘flower’ (southern), [dɪdɛk] ‘sunrise’, [dɪukɔrale] ‘sunset’ (central variety) etc.

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Selvaganapathy, M.Phil.

Jawaharlal Nehru University
 Brahmaputra Hostel, Jawaharlal Nehru
 University

New Delhi -110067

selvaganapathy905@gmail.com